Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 AID-05 ACDA-07 TRSE-00 EB-08 /088 W

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R 090851Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6903

INFO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY SEOUL

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEONGEN HONG KONG

AMEMBASSY RANGOON

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

DOD WASHDC

JCS WASHDC

CINCPAC HONOLULU HI

CONFIDENTIAL MANILA 3479

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E O 11652: GDS

TAGS: MARR, ASEAN, RP

SUBJ: U.S. MILITARY BASES IN THE PHILIPPINES

REF: KUALA LUMPUR 0900

1. THREE GENTLEMEN FROM THE WALL STREET JOURNAL CAME TO SEEME MARCH 9 TO DISCUSS REFTEL, THE COMPLETE TEXT OF CONFIDENTIAL

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WHICH WAS IN THEIR POSSESSION. THEY INTENDED TO DO A MAJOR IN-DEPTH PIECE ON THE SUBJECT FOR RELEASE IN BOTH THEIR ASIAN EDITION AND THE DOMESTIC U.S. EDITIONS.

2. ON BACKGROUND BASIS, I GAVE THEM ALL THE STERLING ARGUMENTS WHICH REFUTE THE UNDERHILL THESIS AND WHICH LEAD TO THE CONCLUSION THAT THE U.S. WILL CONTINUE TO MAINTAIN

BASES IN THE PHILIPPINES. I MADE CLEAR THAT THIS SORT OF INTELLECTUAL EXERCISE AND DEVIL'S ADVOCACY IS A TRADITIONAL AND HEALTHY PASTIME IN THE FOREIGN SERVICE, AND THAT THE ONLY NEW FEATURE WHICH WILL REQUIRE SOME GETTING USED TO IS THE PROSPECT THAT WE MUST NOW SHARE OUR CABLED THOUGHTS WITH THE READERSHIP OF THE AMERICAN PRESS.

3. ALTHOUGH THE CORRESPONDENTS (KANN, PEARLSTINE AND CARLSON) INTEND TO SEE SEVERAL FILIPINO OFFICIALS DURING THEIR STAY HERE, IT IS NOT CLEAR WHETHER THEY INTEND TO RAISE BASES ISSUE WITH THEM. SULLIVAN

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NNN

Message Attributes

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TAGS: MARR, RP, ASEAN

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